

Summary of Differences Between Original Medicare Vs. Medicare Advantage

We know that you receive a lot of marketing material this time of year about Supplements and Advantage plans. We get a lot of questions about the difference between the two. This chart is a basic comparison to give you a general idea of how they compare. This is not a comprehensive comparison. If you want to discuss these differences more please indicate so on your form that you return to us.

	Original Medicare (Part A, Part B, Supplement and Part D—RxPlan)	Advantage Plans (Part C)
Network Restrictions	No network restrictions. Coverage across the US.	Typically there are networks restrictions to the doctors and hospitals you can choose.
Monthly Premium Costs	You pay for part B (same as Advantage Plan); Supplements vary in cost depending on age, gender and plan (average \$100-\$160/month); prescription plan national average is \$34/ month (could be higher or lower depending on prescriptions). Rx co-pays are similar to Advantage Plans.	The monthly premium is either \$0 or is small. Instead of a monthly premium you are agreeing to pay for medical services as you use them. You still pay for part B. Rx co-pays are similar to stand alone prescription plans.
Costs for Services Used	Little to no out of pocket costs as you use medical services depending on which supplement plan you choose.	Your costs are incurred as you use your services. As you go to the doctor, hospital, have tests or treatments you pay co-pays or co-insurance for your services. Once your annual costs (excluding prescriptions) reach the maximum out of pocket limit (MOOP) then you no longer pay co-pays or co-insurance until the policy renews January 1 st the next year.
Changing Plans	You can switch your Supplement plans anytime of the year but you must go through medical underwriting after your initial enrollment. Prescription plans can be switched during AEP (same as Advantage Plans).	You can switch Advantage plans with no underwriting questions only during AEP (Annual Enrollment Period) which is October 15th-December 7 th . The new policy goes into effect January 1 st .

****Please note:** If you are interested in switching from your Advantage Plan to Original Medicare you will have to go thru Medical Underwriting. This includes a series of medical questions on the application and a phone call from the company to confirm your health status. If you have or have had any major medical issues in the past 5 years we may or may not be able to switch you at this time. Please talk to us about what has happened. We are happy to discuss this further with you when we complete your review.